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→EDITORIAL NOTES←

The Opposition to Old Testament Study in the Sunday School.—There are many who would give up entirely the study of the Old Testament in the Sunday School. The number is larger than is generally supposed. It includes men of all denominations and of every position. No one ought to be surprised that this question has come up. No one ought to suppose that it will be settled soon or easily. The real occasion of surprise is that attention has not been called to it sooner. The question, whether the Old Testament ought to be given up entirely in Sunday School study, or whether it ought to receive less attention than it has been accustomed to receive is practically the same. For (1) the reasons which would take away from Old Testament study one-half or one-fourth of the time now being given to it, will later be urged in favor of giving up the study of it altogether; and (2) the same thing is effected by either course, viz., a disparagement of Old Testament study; while (3) since, considering its dimensions, the Old Testament is now receiving only one-fifth the attention given to the New (see p. 306 of this number), any diminution of this amount will be really an abandonment of the study. Bible students are entering upon the discussion of a most vital question. If one will but stop to consider all that is here involved he will realize that what have hitherto been regarded as fundamentals are at stake.

Our Symposium.—There is great advantage in approaching a question from many standpoints. To discuss a topic from a single point of view is, of course, to present a narrow, one-sided discussion. And this is true whether the treatment is that of a specialist or of an ignoramus.

There is great advantage also in considering, side by side, the ideas of different men in reference to a given subject, since each man, of necessity, speaks from a different point of view. So far as there may be agreement, well and good; where disagreement is found, there is probably a reason why we should stop and think.

We give our readers, this month, the opinions, briefly stated, of several of our most eminent teachers and preachers, touching the use of the Old Testament in the Sunday School. They do not all consider the same aspect of this question, yet all take up the question. Is there entire agreement in the various positions taken? No. Yet the differences are not marked ones.

There is food, here, for thought. The question is a vital one. If it is a mistake to give so much of the time in Sunday School study to the Old Testament, the mistake has gone uncorrected long enough. If it is *not* a mistake, the sooner this strong under-current of opposition to its use is controlled, the better will it be for the cause of Sunday School instruction and Bible study.

Summer Instruction.—In this country, we go from one extreme to another. “Nothing or everything” is the regulating principle. Five years ago, there